

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video signal transmission device comprising:
 - a video signal generation unit configured to generate a video signal based on information obtained from a predetermined information source;
 - a signal format judgment unit configured to judge a signal format of the video signal generated by the video signal generation unit;
 - a format information hold unit configured to hold format information indicating a format of the video signal;
 - a signal format conversion unit configured to convert the format of the video signal generated by the video signal generation unit based on the format information held by the format information hold unit and the signal format judged by the signal format judgment unit; and
 - a video signal transmission unit configured to transmit the video signal outputted from the signal format conversion unit.

2. A video signal transmission device according to claim 1, wherein the signal format conversion unit comprises:

- a video signal judgment unit configured to judge the format of the video signal outputted from the video signal transmission unit based on the format information held by the format information hold unit

and the signal format judged by the signal format judgment unit; and

5 a video signal conversion unit configured to convert the format of the video signal generated by the video signal generation unit into the format judged by the video signal judgment unit.

3. A video signal transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the video signal judgment unit makes judgment so as to convert the format of the video
10 signal outputted from the video signal transmission unit to that held by the format information hold unit in a case where the signal format judged by the signal format judgment unit has a video level higher than that of the format held by the format information hold unit.

15 4. A video signal transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the video signal judgment unit includes an aspect ratio, the number of horizontal scanning lines, or a scanning system as elements by which the format of the video signal outputted from the
20 video signal transmission unit is judged.

5. A video signal transmission device according to claim 1, wherein the video signal generation unit comprises:

25 a tuner unit configured to extract a broadcasting signal of a predetermined channel from the received broadcasting signal; and

a video signal restore unit configured to generate

the video signal from the broadcasting signal extracted from the tuner unit.

6. A video signal transmission device according to claim 1, wherein the video signal generation unit
5 comprises:

a reproducing unit configured to reproduce a recording medium; and

a video signal restore unit configured to generate the video signal from an output of the reproducing
10 unit.

7. A video signal transmission method comprising:
generating a video signal based on information obtained from a predetermined information source;
judging a signal format of the generated video
15 signal;

holding format information indicating a format of the video signal;

converting the format of the generated video signal based on the held format information held and
20 the judged signal format; and

transmitting the video signal whose format is converted.

8. A video signal reception device comprising:

a video signal reception unit configured to
25 receive a video signal;

a video signal processing unit configured to subject the video signal received by the video signal

reception unit to predetermined signal processing;

format information hold unit configured to hold
format information indicating a format of the video
signal processable by the video signal processing unit;
5 and

a format information output unit configured to
output the format information held by the format
information hold unit.

9. A video signal reception device according to
10 claim 8, wherein the format information held by the
format information hold unit includes an aspect ratio,
the number of horizontal scanning lines or a scanning
system of the video signal processable by the video
signal processing unit.

15 10. A video signal reception device according to
claim 8, wherein the video signal processing unit
comprises:

a signal processing unit configured to subject the
video signal received by the video signal reception
20 unit to signal processing for display; and

a video display unit configured to display the
video signal subjected to the signal processing by
the signal processing unit.

11. A video signal reception device according to
25 claim 8, wherein the video signal processing unit
comprises:

a signal processing unit configured to subject

the video signal received by the video signal reception unit to signal processing for recording; and

a recording/reproducing unit configured to record/reproduce the video signal subjected to the signal processing by the signal processing unit.